Accela SDK for Windows 8

Version 3.0

GETTING STARTED GUIDE

Accela

Accela SDK for Windows 8 Getting Started Guide

Version 3.0
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PREFACE

The Accela SDK for Windows Store Apps is designed to be easy to install and use. This guide walks you through the basics of setting up the development environment and using the SDK or project template to create an app.

Revision History

This revision history table summarizes changes made during each release of this document for version 3.0 of Accela SDK for Windows 8.

Table 1: Revision History

Date	Description
August 2013	Updated to the latest terminology and user interfaces
May 2013	Initial document release

Getting Help

If you need technical assistance, one of your best resources is the Accela Customer Resource Center (CRC). There, you can search the knowledge base to find answers to commonly asked questions about our products. You can also register to use the Accela Forum where you can find a wealth of practical information from other Accela users, as well as participate in dynamic information exchange.

If you still have questions after visiting Accela's CRC site, or if you encounter any problems as you use the product, contact your agency administrator.

If you determine that you need professional technical assistance, have your agency's designated contact call the CRC at (888) 7-ACCELA, ext. 5 or (888) 722-2352 ext. 5. The Accela CRC is available Monday through Friday from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM (PST/PDT)

Before calling, please have the following information available for the CRC representative:

- The Accela product name and version number.
- Steps to replicate the issue, including any error message or error number.
- Screen shots, if possible.
- Whether the problem is specific to a machine or to a user.
- Exactly when the problem began.
- Anything that changed on your computer or network (for example, new software was loaded).

- A copy of your configuration file, if appropriate.

Related Publications

Accela provides a set of Accela SDK documents for agency and third-party developers.

- *Accela Login Getting Started (online help)*

Documentation Feedback

Accela wants to provide you with the most accurate and useful documentation possible. We welcome your feedback in helping us improve future versions of this guide. Send an e-mail message with your feedback to documentation@accela.com. Please include the product name and version number, whether the feedback involves a printed manual or online help, the topic title, and a brief description and context of the suggestion.

GETTING STARTED WITH ACCELA SDK FOR WINDOWS 8

Topics

- Preparing Your Environment
- Registering Your Windows Store App on the Accela Developer Portal
- Creating a Windows Store App Using Accela SDK
- Modifying Details about Your App
- Downloading and Running a Sample Project

Preparing Your Environment

The environment where you install and use Accela SDK to create Windows Store apps must meet the following requirements:

- Windows 8 operating system
- Microsoft Visual Studio. Choose one of these editions:
  - Visual Studio 2012 Professional
  - Visual Studio 2012 Premium
  - Visual Studio 2012 Ultimate
  - Visual Studio Express 2012 for Windows 8

Contact Accela Customer Resource Center at 1-888-722-2352 ext. 5 for recommended environment requirements. Office hours are Monday–Friday 4:00am to 6:00pm Pacific Time. You can also contact Accela Customer Resource Center through the Web site at http://www.accela.com/services/support-login.

Registering Your Windows Store App on the Accela Developer Portal

To register your Windows Store app on the Accela Developer Portal

1. Log in to the Accela Developer portal.

2. Navigate to the My Apps tab.

3. Click the **Add New App** button.

The app creation page appears.

4. Complete the required fields.

Targeted Users	To create an app for agency users, select the Agency App option. To create an app for citizen users, select the Citizen App option.
App Name	Enter the app name.
App Description	Enter a description of the app.
Stage	Select "Under Development" or "Published" from the drop-down list. This field defines the app development stage.
App Secret	The app secret is generated automatically. Remember the value of the app secret and it will be required when setting up your app with Accela SDK.
Enabled	Mark the check box to enable the app or clear the check box to disable the app.

5. Click the **Submit** button.

Your application is now registered.

6. Note down your App ID and App Secret as you will need them when setting up the app in Visual Studio.

Creating a Windows Store App Using Accela SDK

After registering your app at the Accela Developer Portal, you have two ways to create a Windows Store App. You can create a new project in Visual Studio, install the latest Accela SDK that is published to the NuGet Gallery, and then build the app. Or if you have downloaded the Accela SDK project templates from the Accela Developer Portal into Visual Studio, you can create an app using the template.

Topics

- Creating an App from Installed Accela SDK
- Creating an App from an Accela SDK Project Template

Creating an App from Installed Accela SDK

Accela publishes all versions of the Accela SDK for Windows Store apps to the NuGet Gallery at https://nuget.org/packages/AccelaSDK/.

To create an app from installed Accela SDK

1. Open Microsoft Visual Studio.

2. On the **File** menu, select **New** and then click **Project**.

The New Project window appears.

3. In the left pane, click **Installed**.

4. In the middle pane, select the desired project type such as Blank App, Grid App, or Split App.
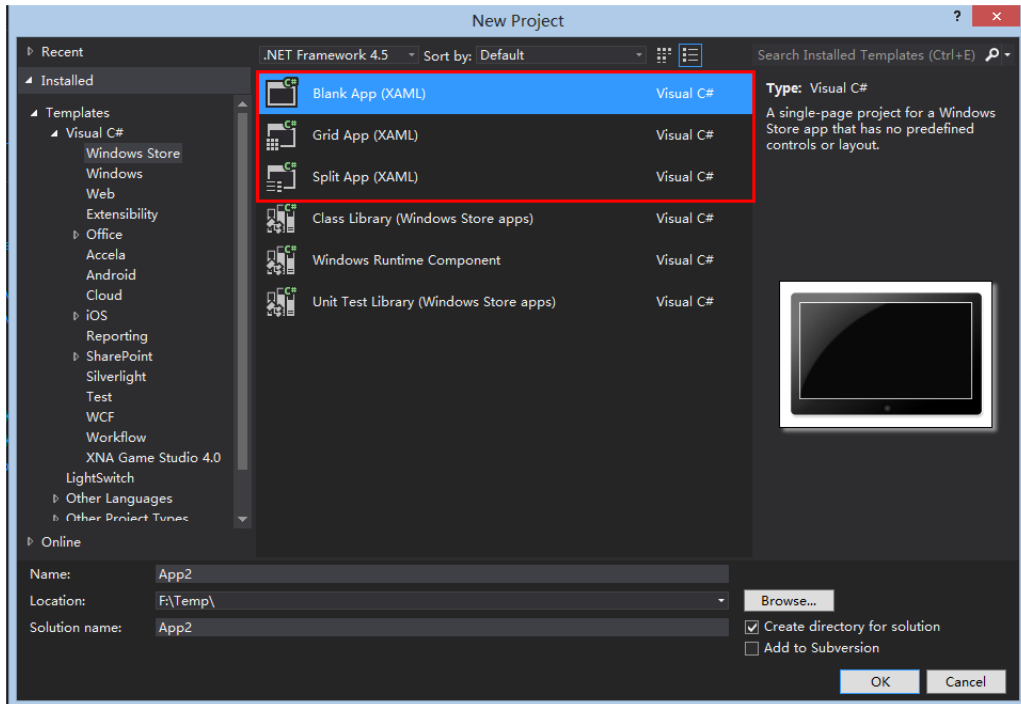
5. Complete these fields if necessary.

Name	Enter the name of the project, which is also the app name that users can see. After the project is created, you can also modify the project name. See Modifying Details about Your App on page 15 for more information.
Location	Use the Browse button to specify where you want to save the project files.
Solution name	Enter the name of the solution. By default, it is the same with the project name.

6. Click **OK**.

The new project is created. Now you are ready to install Accela SDK.

7. From the **Tools** menu, select **Library Package Manager** and then click **Package Manager Console**.
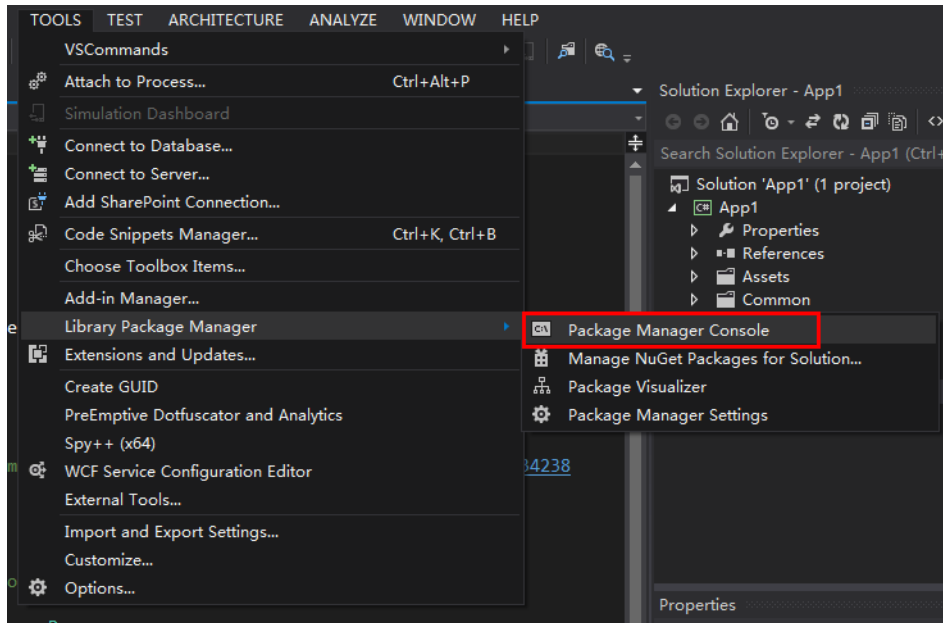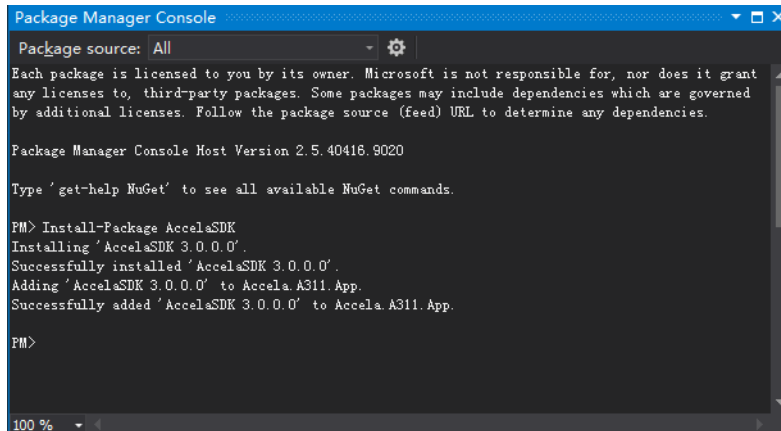
The Package Manager Console window appears.
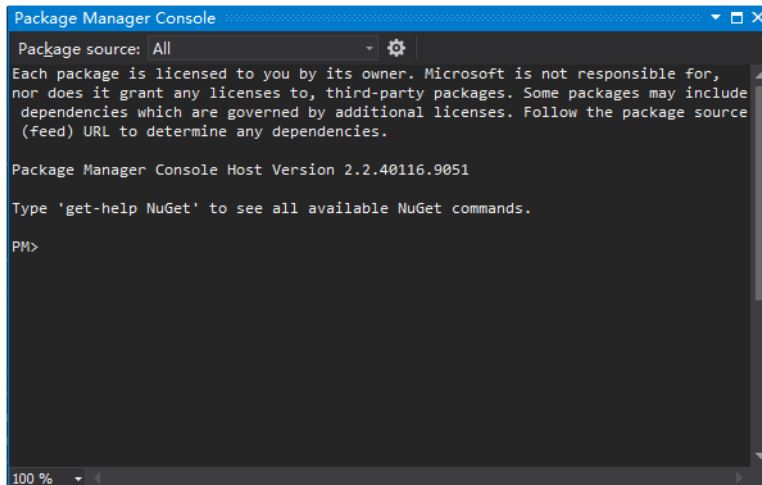
8. Enter the command `Install-Package AccelaSDK`.

   Visual Studio retrieves the latest Accela SDK package from the NuGet Gallery and installs it in the project you just created.

   If the Accela SDK is installed successfully, the Package Manager Console window displays the messages as follows.

Meanwhile, the Solution Explorer pod displays the references that Visual Studio has added for the installed SDK.
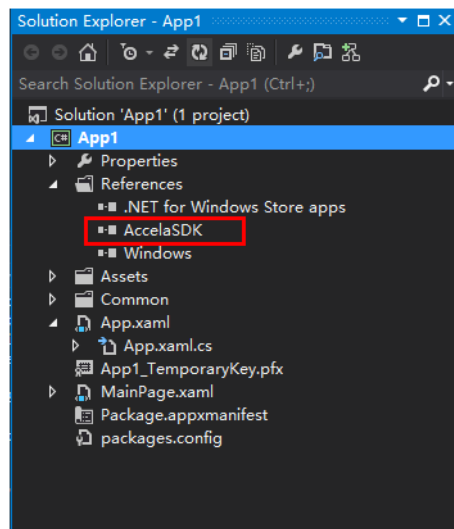
9. In the Solution Explorer pod, double-click the code-behind class file named *App.xaml.cs* and complete the following configuration tasks:

   a. In the App class, import the following namespace.

   ```
   usingAccela.WindowsStoreSDK;
   ```

   b. In the App class, declare the following variables.

   ```
   Public AccelaSDK ShareAccelaSDK { get; private set; }

   //the App Id & App Secret before registration

   private string _appId = "";

   private string _appSecret = "";
   ```

c. Add the app ID and app secret that you noted down in Registering Your Windows Store App on the Accela Developer Portal on page 6 as the values for the `_appId` and `_appSecret` variables. Here is an example.

```
private string _appId = "12345678901234567";

private string _appSecret = "a12b34c5d678e9f0ag1h23456ij78kl";
```

d. In the App class constructor, add the following code to the App class.

```
SharedAccelaSDK = new AccelaSDK(_appId, _appSecret);
```

After the configuration, the code-behind file now looks like this:

10. Build and run the application as you want.

Creating an App from an Accela SDK Project Template

Accela offers you a set of project templates on the Accela Developer Portal. After downloading and installing the template package into Visual Studio, you can brand the templates to create your custom A311 app, agency app, or citizen app. The project templates add the necessary files and references for the project type, which makes your app development easier.

Topics

- Downloading and Installing Accela SDK Project Templates
- Using the Project Template to Create an App

Downloading and Installing Accela SDK Project Templates

If this is the first time you create a Windows Store app from an Accela SDK project template, follow the instructions in this section to download and install the project templates. If you already have the project templates available in Visual Studio, skip this section and see Using the Project Template to Create an App on page 12.

To download and install Accela SDK project Templates

1. Navigate to the Resources tab on the Accela Developer Portal.

2. From the Windows 8 Resources list, click the **Download Accela SDK for Windows 8** link.
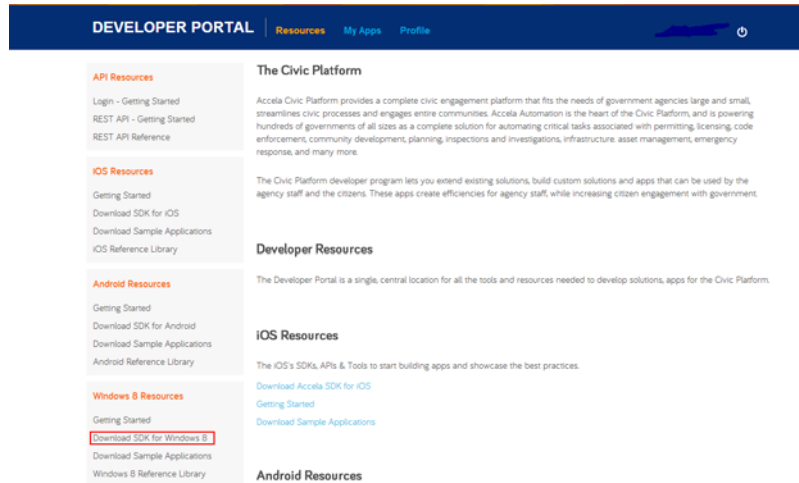
3. Save the template installation package (*.vsix) into your local drive.

4. Locate the template installation package and double-click it.

5. Step through the installation.

> **Note:** *You do not need to uninstall the previous version of project templates. Running the installation package overwrites previous templates in Visual Studio automatically.*
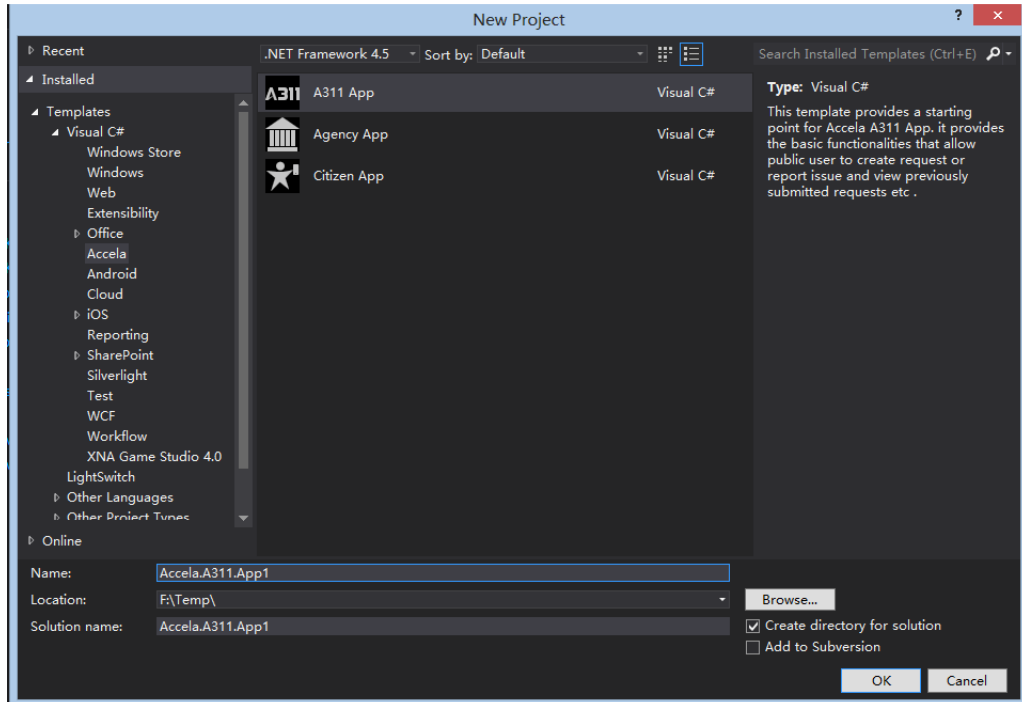
Using the Project Template to Create an App

To use the project template to create an app

1. Open Microsoft Visual Studio.

2. On the **File** menu, select **New** and then click **Project**.

The New Project window appears.

3. In the left pane, navigate to **Installed > Templates > Visual C# > Accela**.

   *The New Project window displays the project templates you have installed.*

4. In the middle pane, select the desired project template from which you want to create the new app.

5. Complete these fields if necessary.

|	
Name	Enter the name of the project, which is also the app name that users can see. After the project is created, you can also modify the project name. See Modifying Details about Your App on page 15 for more information.
Location	Use the Browse button to specify where you want to save the project files.
Solution name	Enter the name of the solution. By default, it is the same with the project name.

6. Click **OK**.

   The New Accela App Project window appears.
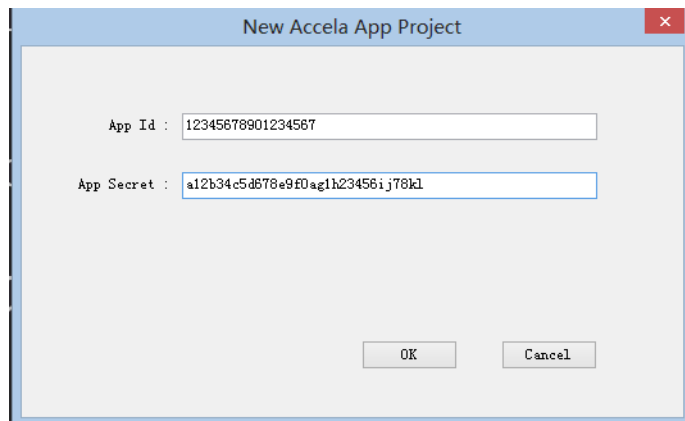
7. Enter the app ID and app secret that you noted down in Registering Your Windows Store App on the Accela Developer Portal on page 6 and click **OK**.

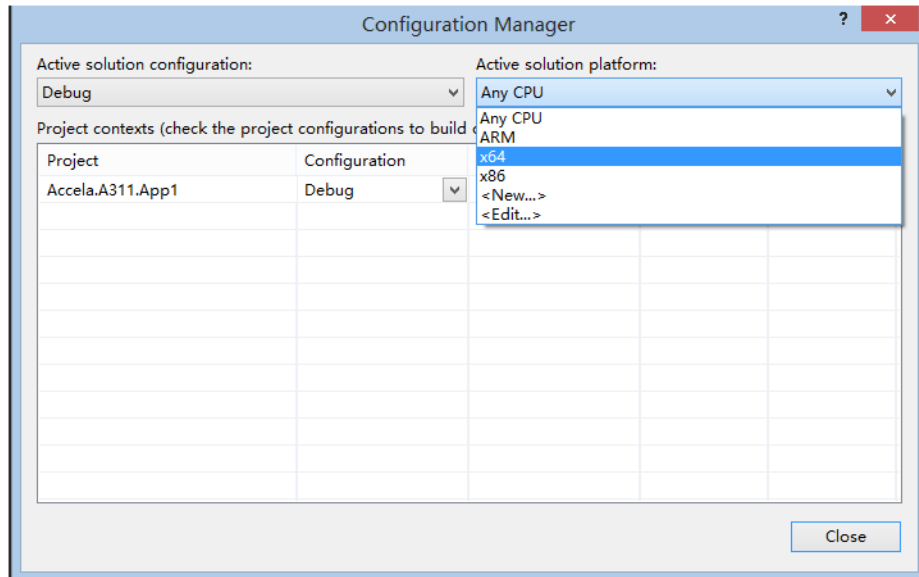   *The new app is created.*

8. If you see a reference error as follows, do the following:
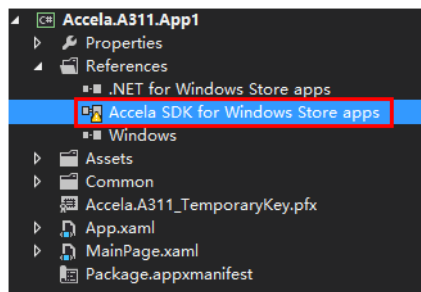
   a. On the **Build** menu, select **Configuration Manager**.

      The Configuration Manager window appears.
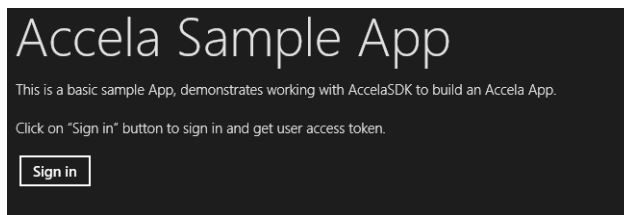
b. Select the specific target platform for your app from the **Active solution platform** drop-down list.

> **Note:**   *Do not choose "Any CPU" because it will cause compilation errors when you build and run the project.*

9. Build and run the application as you want.
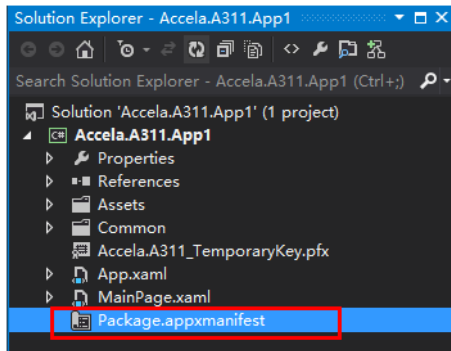
The app may look like this.

Modifying Details about Your App

If necessary, you can modify app information, such as the app name, description, and supported rotations.
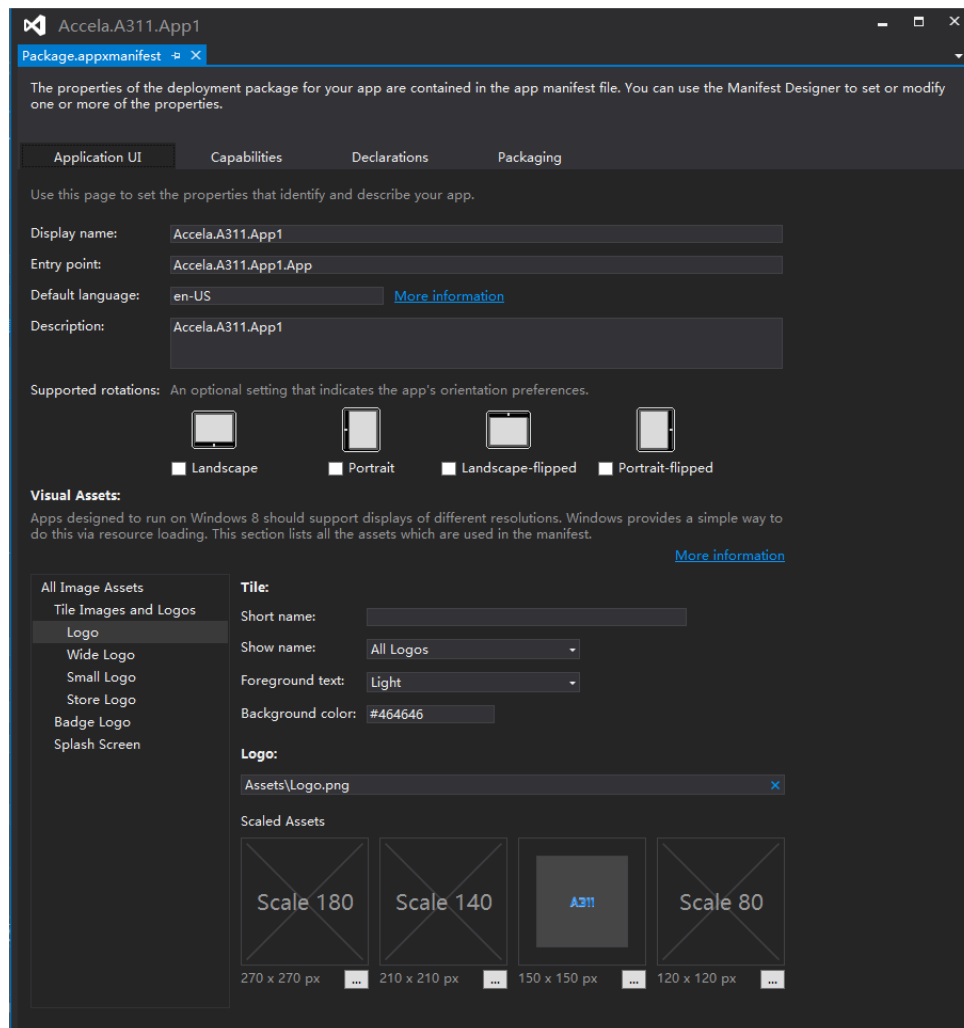
To modify details about your app

1. In the **Solution Explorer** pod, open the *package.appxmanifest* file.
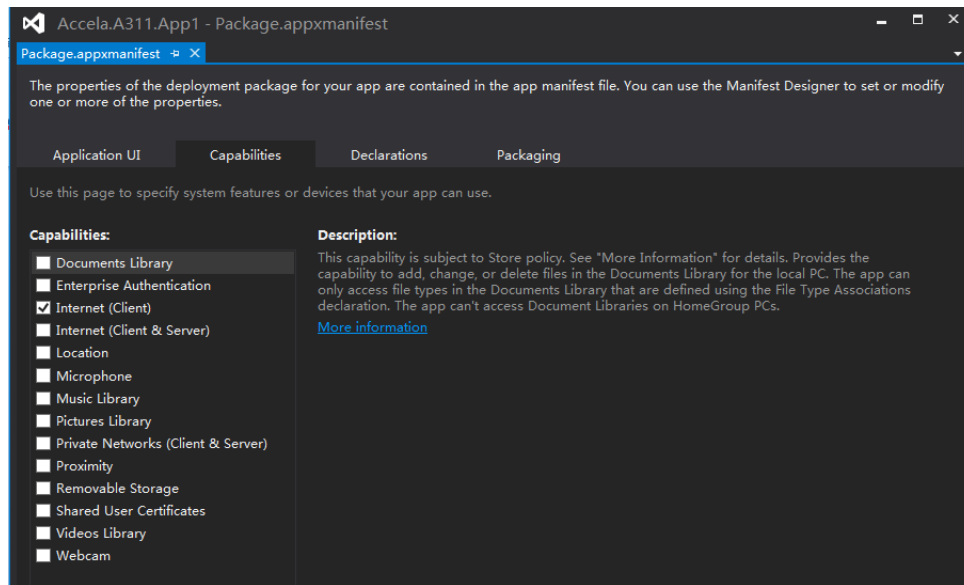
The Package.appxmanifest tab appears.

2. Do any of the following:

- To define your app user interface, such as the name of your app, click the **Application UI** tab and modify the fields as needed.

- To specify the system feature that your app can use, click the **Capabilities** tab and select the capabilities.


3. Run the project to verify the changes you made.

Downloading and Running a Sample Project

Accela offers you a sample project on the Accela Developer Portal. The sample project demonstrates the common features that you can integrate into a Window Store app via the Accela SDK for Windows 8.

To download and run a sample project

1. Navigate to the Resources tab on the Accela Developer Portal.

2. From the Windows 8 Resources list, click the **Download Sample Applications** link.
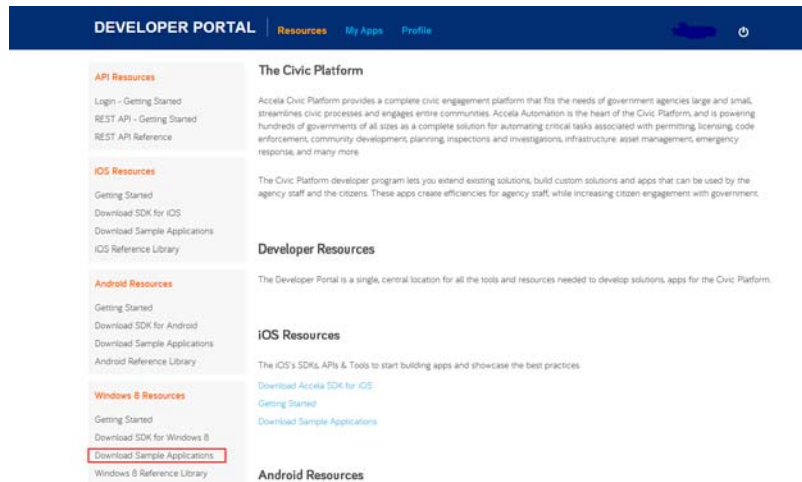
3. Save the sample project package (*.zip) into your local drive.

4. Open Microsoft Visual Studio and run the sample project.